



Policy: Client Support for Blythe House

Purpose of this policy: to ensure that clients and carers who have accessed Blythe House services and who wish to support Blythe House have the opportunity to do so in a way that benefits both the individual and the hospice, and does not compromise the individual's health and wellbeing particularly given the sometimes difficult demands of volunteering both within, or connected to, a hospice environment.

- Current and recently discharged clients and carers who wish to support the hospice are encouraged to consider ways in which they might raise funds that will not compromise their health and wellbeing. Key workers can provide guidance, and the fundraising team are available to offer advice, materials and publicity, if required.
- Former clients and carers have the opportunity to volunteer in one of the hospice shops or to support our fundraising activities when six months has elapsed since the date of their discharge from all Blythe House services.
- We recommend that anyone experiencing bereavement allows at least six months to elapse before considering a hospice-based volunteer role.
- Former clients and carers can be considered for a volunteer role based at the hospice when 12 months has elapsed since the date of their discharge from all Blythe House services.
- Former and current clients and carers are strongly recommended to give careful consideration to applying for a paid role at the hospice, particularly if less than 12 months has elapsed since the date of their discharge. Careful screening throughout the recruitment process and the probationary period is expected to ensure that the most appropriate appointment is made particularly given the demanding nature of work at the hospice and any potential conflict of interest with established peer groups.